

# Journal Tribune.

"To care for him who has borne the battle, and for his widow and orphans."

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## THE WAR IN THE WEST.

General George H. Thomas at Camp Dick Robinson.

### LACK OF SUPPLIES.

General Felix K. Zollicoffer in East Tennessee.

### HIS TROOPS UNARMED.

Re-enforcements pouring in from Ohio and Indiana.

General Thomas found, on assuming command at Camp Dick Robinson, on the 15th of September, 1861, very little that enters into the formation of a military camp, except men. A few boxes of clothing had arrived and had been distributed promiscuously where the articles were most needed. A pair of pants here and a shirt there; here a hat and there a pair of shoes; and, to add to the grotesque appearance of the command, an occasional army overcoat might be seen, whose accommodating skirts concealed, to some extent, the absence of an important article of wearing apparel. General Thomas found ample need for the patience and fortitude with which he was endowed, in the formation of an army from the crude material at his command. Accustomed to the methods of the Regular army and to the discipline of its soldiery, he had never until now had command of a brigade composed exclusively of volunteer troops. The buff-colored shoulder straps of a colonel of cavalry had not been replaced by the star of the brigadier to which he was entitled when he arrived at Camp Dick Robinson. He was accompanied by Captain Geo. E. Flynn, the accomplished and efficient adjutant-general, who remained until the close of the war his trusted confidential adviser and friend. For twenty-five years General Thomas had been accustomed to martial scenes. He had fought the Seminoles in the everglades and the fierce Comanches on the plains. He had won distinction in the war with Mexico, and at the breaking out of the war of the rebellion found himself major of a regiment of cavalry, of which Albert Sidney Johnston was colonel, Robert E. Lee was lieutenant-colonel, and W. J. Hardee was major. Promoted to a colonelcy on the 24 of May, 1861, he served a few months in the Eastern army before being commissioned a brigadier-general in the Regular army and sent to report to General Anderson at Louisville.

In every position in which he had been placed throughout his military career he had borne himself a man—modest, brave, and incorruptible; he had witnessed the capture of his native Virginia by the Confederacy as he would have seen one of his companies taken in battle, with no other emotion than a determination to recapture it; and now, at the age of forty-five, the real drama of his life was to begin.

LACK OF ARMS SUPPLIES.

The hitherto insurmountable difficulty in equipping this command for its expedition into East Tennessee had been to obtain the necessary supplies. Week after week the impatient Nelson had been compelled to wait, until hope and patience were alike exhausted. General Thomas lost no time in introducing military system into the camp, and in imparting to it the character of a camp of instruction. Company and battalion drill became a part of the daily duties, and a laudable desire to excel in the discipline of their regiments animated the officers.

The patience, dignity, and self-control which never forsook him in the most trying emergencies and which afterwards gave him the unbounded control of the army, was at no period of his life more manifest than now. Fully alive to the importance of the expedition into East Tennessee, which contemplated the permanent occupation of Knoxville and control of the Virginia and East Tennessee railroad, he was powerless to obtain even the clothing necessary to preserve the lives of his men. He had no wagons and could not obtain them. Hundreds were being shipped to Rosecrans in Western Virginia. The orders of Fremont were on file in all the major factories at Cincinnati, and were being filled as rapidly as possible. Finding that no assistance could be rendered by the quartermaster's department at Louisville or Cincinnati, and that General Thomas, by the very fact of his military education, was committed to regular army methods for obtaining supplies through the regular channels, the writer, then a member of his staff, conceived the idea of procuring them by the same means that had proved successful in the hands of General Fremont. Making out a requisition upon Captain Dickinson, assistant quartermaster at Cincinnati, for a large quantity of clothing, tents and other camp equipment, and having it approved by General Thomas, he proceeded to Cincinnati and presented it to Captain Dickinson. He was informed that the quartermaster's department was powerless to furnish the articles enumerated, and that, being indebted to the clothing manufacturers over a million dollars, his credit with them was exhausted. He then applied to Colonel Swords, assistant quartermaster general at Louisville, to know at what time he might expect to receive funds for the equipment of Camp Dick Robinson; to which Colonel Swords responded, designating the middle of October as the probable date. Knowing that the uncertainty as to the time fixed would deprive him from competing in open market for goods with the agents of General Fremont, who were able to pay cash on delivery, and feeling deeply the necessities of the men whom he had left shivering in their ragged camp, he determined to purchase the goods, if possible, and agree to pay the 15th of October on delivery at Nicholasville. He visited several of the largest establishments and found large quantities of clothing. Tempting piles of warm flannel shirts, blankets, blouses and overcoats, pantaloons and woolen hosiery greeted his eyes, while accommodating clerks stood ready to sell them—cheap for cash. Exhibiting the requisition as his credentials, he left copies of it at several places, requesting the proprietors to mark opposite each article the price at which they would sell it for cash on delivery, and hand it to him the next day as a sealed proposal. The plan worked admirably. The clothing was purchased in accordance with the bids, and the officer returned highly elated with his success. But his triumph was of short duration. The next evening a stranger alighted from the stage at the camp, and, inquiring for

the acting quartermaster, was shown to his quarters. "I have never visited a camp," he said, "and I came to see one." The officer welcomed him and expressed his willingness to render his stay as agreeable as possible. "When our house heard that I wished to visit your camp," said the stranger, "the proprietors made me a supercargo of a little invoice of clothing that comprises a part of the goods you purchased yesterday." The officer glanced at the bill and found it was from one of the houses with whom he had contracted; he compared it item by item with the proposal and found no variation in prices; he added it and found it correct; he examined the checks of the receiving clerk at Nicholasville, and found that the packages had all arrived at the depot. There was no reason why he should not pay the bill, except that he had no money.

SATISFYING A CREDITOR.

He knew as well as he knew his name that a clerk had been sent with a small quantity of goods to test his ability to meet his engagements. Taking down a check-book on a banking house at Lexington, (where he had no account), he deliberately wrote a check for the amount, and, handing it to the stranger, took his receipted bill, excused himself and mounted his horse for a ride to Lexington. It may well be imagined that the emotions of the officer were not of the most pleasurable description during that lonely night ride of twenty miles. For the first time in his life he had been guilty of a flagrant crime, and one which he feared General Thomas would not condone. Arriving at Lexington, he sought rest at a hotel, but could not sleep. Rising early in the morning, he rang the bell at the residence of the banker; for it was necessary to arrange, if possible, for the payment of the check without being seen by the bearer. The banker came down and the officer at once introduced himself. He stated the condition of the camp, and that the half-dressed soldiers constituted the only defense of Lexington against the enemy, who was reported to be advancing into Kentucky from East Tennessee. He then exhibited the telegram from Colonel Swords, and asked him if (the banker) would advance money upon it, provided Colonel Swords verified the dispatch. "Yes," said the old man, "to the extent of my ability." "I am glad to hear it," said the overjoyed officer; "for I have already drawn a check upon your bank." "The check shall be paid," said the banker. The homeward ride through the crisp September morning air was a pleasant trip, but the one of the previous night. The troops were soon better clad and in more comfortable quarters, and the loan was promptly paid by Colonel Swords. It is, perhaps, a trivial incident, but it will serve to explain the delay in carrying out the design of the Government to occupy East Tennessee. Having ordered the expedition in July, the War Department seemed to have forgotten it, and no means were provided to carry it into execution. On the 20th of September, Captain Dickinson telegraphed General Thomas that he had commenced the shipment of wagons to him, but before he had gotten fairly under way he had orders from Western Virginia for four hundred, which took precedence. In fact every army movement seemed to take precedence of that which General Thomas was strategizing means to carry forward, and which the stout hearts and willing hands of 1,500 loyal East Tennesseans were pledged to assist in accomplishing. Yet it is difficult to conceive of a more important movement than that of the early occupation of East Tennessee by a strong force. The effect would have been to cut off all railroad communication between the eastern and western portions of the Confederacy, except by the long and devious routes south of the Appalachian chain of mountains, and to add to the army of the United States fully 10,000 hardy mountaineers, inured to toil and hardship, and performing a soldierly duty in protecting a loyal people against the persecution of the enemies of the Union. A title of the troops, arms and camp equipment lying idle upon the banks of the Potomac transferred to General Thomas in September would have enabled him to penetrate the shell which the Confederates managed by a show of strength to maintain far outside of the real bounds of their territory for nearly a year long.

AFFAIRS IN EAST TENNESSEE.

East Tennessee is separated from Kentucky by the Cumberland Mountains and from Western Virginia by the Iron and Alleghany Mountains. The country is watered by the Holston and Clinch Rivers, which, flowing from the north and east, unite at Kingston and form the Tennessee River. The East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad, 139 miles long, connects Chattanooga at the southern end of the valley with Knoxville on the north, from which place the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad runs to Lynchburg, Virginia. The population, similar in character to that in Eastern Kentucky and Western Virginia, earnestly protested against the secession of the State, casting 39,993 votes against it to 5,577 votes in favor thereof. Having authority of an act of the Legislature, equipped an army of 25,000 men, recruited from among the ranks of the secessionists, Governor Harris stationed them where they would do the most good, and even then the vote for separation from the Union at a subsequent election resulted in a vote of 32,923 votes against to 14,759 in favor of the measure. The Union men claimed that in the last election over 10,000 non-residents, composed of State troops and others, voted in favor of secession. Encouraged by the prospect of aid from the General Government, they were actively engaged in organizing themselves into companies and regiments, with which to re-enforce the troops that were expected from Kentucky, and were so largely in the majority in most of the counties as to render concealment of their designs unnecessary. The Knoxville *Whig*, published by W. G. Brownlow, breathed out threatening and slaughter against the Southern Confederacy, and the lack of arms only prevented an open rebellion. General Felix K. Zollicoffer, an ex-member of Congress and editor of a Nashville paper, a man of high personal character and an ardent secessionist, in accordance with the recommendation of General Polk, selected July 28th to command the Confederate forces in East Tennessee, the Tennessee troops having been transferred to the Confederacy.

BARBAROUS TREATMENT OF UNION MEN.

It is generally conceded that General Zollicoffer, upon assuming command of the district of East Tennessee, really desired to overlook the past offenses of the Union men and to prevent, by a wise administration of the power which he was being perpetrated upon them. He granted a ready audience to the persecuted citizens and issued orders against interference with the rights of property, and but for his

taking the field against the expected advance of the force at Camp Dick Robinson and leaving the work of reconciliation that he had commenced to other hands, the annals of this period would not be stained by tales of rapine and murder. The prison at Knoxville was filled again and again by prisoners whose only crime was that they were Union men, and the choice offered them of accepting service against their Union neighbors or being confined permanently in the military prison at Salisbury, N. C. An old man, a Methodist preacher, was arrested for not omitting from his prayer the petition for the President of the United States, and finally the consummation of these fiendish atrocities was reached by an order of banishment against the families of refugees to the Union lines at their own expense. What wonder that these people turned longing eyes northward at every sunrise, hoping to see the glittering bayonets of an army of deliverance.

DISPOSITION OF THE CONFEDERATE TROOPS.

The approach to East Tennessee from the north is guarded by a high range of mountains, through which there are three principal gaps or depressions, viz., Pound Gap, 100 miles northeast from Knoxville; Jimtown Gap, eighty-five miles northwest, and Cumberland Gap, sixty-five miles northward. A turnpike extended from Nicholasville, Kentucky, southward to Crab Orchard, sixty-five miles from Cumberland Gap, and from that point through the gap there was a dirt road, practicable until late in the fall for heavy wagons, but almost impassable in the winter. Along this road for many years previous to the building of the Virginia and Tennessee and the Kentucky Central Railroads, merchandise to supply the people of East Tennessee had been transported from Maysville, Ky., on the Ohio River. Fully alive to the importance of defending these gaps against the approach of the Union forces, General Zollicoffer early in August disposed of his available force, thirty-three infantry companies, along the line of the mountains at the various gaps and bridge paths to intercept communication between Kentucky and Tennessee Union men. Using six cavalry companies as scouts between the different posts, he placed a section of light artillery in position at Cumberland Gap, and held a battery in reserve at Knoxville. Besides the infantry above referred to, he had one regiment and sixteen companies stationed along the line of the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad, guarding bridges which had been threatened by the Union men. His troops were all raw and undisciplined, and constantly committed depredations upon private property. Under orders to search for arms, they invaded private houses and pillaged them, and everything that they unbridled fancy led them to desire. If any Union men in East Tennessee had looked with approbation upon the security offered to persons and property by the neutrality policy of Kentucky, they had no opportunity to put it in practice. The conduct of the Confederate troops quartered upon them very soon converted the citizens into implacable enemies. Having stationed the troops under his command as best he could, Zollicoffer proceeded to enroll volunteers in East Tennessee and Western Virginia for one year, and many, to escape incarceration in Southern prisons, joined his command with a mental reservation in taking the oath of allegiance to the Southern Confederacy to desert its standard at the first opportunity. Notwithstanding the large amount of arms and ammunition which the seceded States had seized in United States forts and arsenals, and which had been surrendered to them in almost every general engagement since the beginning of the war, these important equipments for an army were, even so early as this, deplorably lacking, and continued to be the "long-felt want" of the Confederacy until the close of the war.

OCCUPATION OF CUMBERLAND GAP.

The search for arms ordered by Governor Harris in Tennessee had resulted in bringing together a vast quantity of weapons, consisting of a heterogeneous mass of squibs, rifles, shotguns, and pistols, useless at long range, and these were supplemented with huge knives intended to be used in carving the backs of the retreating enemy; for the pleasing illusion that "the Yankees would not fight" was not yet dispelled. August 29th Zollicoffer wrote to Adjutant-General Cooper: "Reliable news just in from Hoskins' Cross Roads (Nelson's camp), 4,000 well-armed men there, and coming in 400 or 500 per day. Plenty of arms. One thousand men at Barbourville; 700 at Williamsburg without arms. East Tennesseans going on to Hoskins for arms." The next week he received the unwelcome information from the war department at Richmond that no arms could be furnished him.

The next few weeks were occupied in "selling the leaders of the Union men" and in a vain attempt to "conciliate their misguided followers." Early in September he took military control of the railroads in East Tennessee to facilitate the transportation of supplies to the army in Virginia, and on the 9th announced a forward movement into Kentucky via Cumberland Gap. On the 21st he had taken position at the gap, and finding himself unable to hold it with the means at his command if he were attacked, he broke off discipline to open correspondence with the War Department, except through the regular channels. He was almost unknown to the press of the country. Knowing as we now do the weakness of the enemy's lines and the great administrative ability of General Thomas, there is no doubt, had the Departments of the Ohio and the Cumberland been united under his command, that the 15th of October would have found him at the head of a strong force at Knoxville, while the Confederate lines in Kentucky would have been compelled to resume their position in the hands of the Cumberland River. Of all the regiments that had been sent to Kentucky but one—the Thirty-third Indiana—was supplied with wagons, and this regiment was immediately sent to the front. The forward movement was retarded by the lack of transportation for the great quantity of camp equipment necessary for the proper care of men not yet inured to exposure, and for the organization of supply trains to transport subsistence stores from Nicholasville to the front and to transport arms and army supplies to the unorganized regiments awaiting them in East Tennessee. Five hundred wagons he had plenty of, and this time enabled him to move forward at once via Richmond and Crab Orchard to Knoxville, where the two roads unite, and thence to Knoxville, with an army twice as large as that with which he afterwards defeated Zollicoffer at Mill Springs, augmented by the troops of at least ten regiments of the Federal army. But the golden opportunity was allowed to pass. His repeated requests for means of transportation were unheeded until General Polk, in a fit of rage, ordered the clouds of mud to be rolled up and the army of six miles was required to pull an empty wagon.

the Cumberland Gap road, and take a strong position, fortifying it so as to enable him to defend himself against any force that might be sent against him. He had orders to build forts for his men; to keep out intruders, and to obtain all the information possible of the enemy's movements, and report the same to headquarters every day; to keep up communication with Colonel Sidney M. Barnes at Irvine, whose regiment, the Eighth Kentucky infantry, had been placed in position to intercept communication with the enemy via Pound Gap, and to capture any parties trying to escape into the Confederate lines.

Colonel Bramlette, with his regiment, (Third Kentucky infantry), was stationed at Lexington, and on the 22d, by request of Mc Fisk, of the Senate, he took 300 of his men to Frankfort to guard the capital against a threatened attack, leaving 350 men, under command of Lieut. Col. Scott, at Lexington. The movements of the State Guard companies at this time were exceedingly mysterious, and gave rise to startling rumors of intended attack upon State or municipal property. The event proved, however, that they were only desirous to get away to the Confederate lines with their arms, which necessitated stealthy movements. On the 25th Brigadier General O. M. Mitchell, who had on the 18th assumed command of the Department of the Ohio, which embraced Ohio, Indiana, and fifteen miles into Kentucky, opposite Cincinnati, by invitation of General Anderson and the Kentucky Legislature, took possession of the K. C. R. R. as far south as Lexington. He directed Colonel Vandever to station the companies of his regiment (the Thirty-fifth Ohio volunteer infantry) at the various bridges along the line of the road, and sent Colonel J. B. Steadman, with the Fourteenth Ohio volunteer infantry, to take his position on the Louisville and Lexington Railroad.

ARRIVAL OF OHIO AND INDIANA TROOPS.

General Thomas, having been informed by his outpost that the enemy in heavy force had occupied London, felt that he could no longer risk the safety of his command, which depended by the absence of two regiments and Kentucky cavalry, left only the Fourth Kentucky infantry and the Tennessee regiments at Camp Dick Robinson. Colonel W. A. Hoskins, at Somerset, on the Cumberland River; Colonel Barnes, at Irvine, and Colonel W. J. Landrum, at Big Hill, on the road leading from London into central Kentucky, via Richmond, were all actively engaged in recruiting and at the same time performing excellent service as outposts. On the 22d of September he wrote General Anderson, strongly urging that, to enable him to advance upon the enemy with any show of success, he should be supplied with 4,000 well-drilled troops, consisting of four infantry regiments and a battery of artillery. He constantly beset with importunities from citizens on both sides of the border to advance to their relief; but he was far too wise a commander to heed their appeals, no matter how much his kind heart might have been stirred by the recital of their wrongs. To this requisition General Anderson replied that Louisville was strongly threatened, and that for the present no troops could be spared for the purpose for which they were required. General Anderson wrote, however, to the President and to the Secretary of War, General Grant, stating the immediate necessity for compliance with the request of General Thomas. Finally to receive the required re-enforcements from his department commander, General Thomas dispatched the writer to confer with General Mitchell at Cincinnati, who at once ordered the Thirty-third Indiana, Colonel Jno. Coburn; the Thirty-first Ohio, Colonel M. B. Walker; the Seventeenth Ohio, Colonel Connel; the Thirty-eighth Ohio, Colonel Bradley; the Twenty-first Ohio, Colonel Norton, and two batteries of artillery, under Major Lawrence, to report for duty to General Thomas.

GENERAL THOMAS DETERMINES TO ADVANCE.

General Thomas greatly hampered in field operations by the lack of wagons, General Grant was determined upon an active campaign against the enemy in East Tennessee. On the 10th of October he wrote General Mitchell, thanking him for his prompt response to the call for troops, stating, at the same time, the pressing need for means of transportation, and closed as follows: "If you could send a column of about four regiments up the Big Sandy and move it south, through the counties of Floyd, Letcher and Harlan, in co-operation with my advance by Barbourville, I believe that we might easily seize the railroad and cut off all communication between Virginia and the South through Tennessee, before the enemy will have time to re-enforce Zollicoffer's position to prevent it." This was practically the scheme contemplated in the order directing the organization of troops at Camp Dick Robinson in July, and toward the consummation of which both Nelson and Thomas had bent their most strenuous efforts. Unfortunately, the Government was slow to learn the ability of General Thomas to conduct great enterprises. His army training rendered him incapable of resorting to the means used by many other commanders to bring himself into prominence. He had no political friend at the National Capital to sound his alarm in the ears of the President and he would have regarded it as a breach of discipline to open correspondence with the War Department, except through the regular channels. He was almost unknown to the press of the country. Knowing as we now do the weakness of the enemy's lines and the great administrative ability of General Thomas, there is no doubt, had the Departments of the Ohio and the Cumberland been united under his command, that the 15th of October would have found him at the head of a strong force at Knoxville, while the Confederate lines in Kentucky would have been compelled to resume their position in the hands of the Cumberland River. Of all the regiments that had been sent to Kentucky but one—the Thirty-third Indiana—was supplied with wagons, and this regiment was immediately sent to the front. The forward movement was retarded by the lack of transportation for the great quantity of camp equipment necessary for the proper care of men not yet inured to exposure, and for the organization of supply trains to transport subsistence stores from Nicholasville to the front and to transport arms and army supplies to the unorganized regiments awaiting them in East Tennessee. Five hundred wagons he had plenty of, and this time enabled him to move forward at once via Richmond and Crab Orchard to Knoxville, where the two roads unite, and thence to Knoxville, with an army twice as large as that with which he afterwards defeated Zollicoffer at Mill Springs, augmented by the troops of at least ten regiments of the Federal army. But the golden opportunity was allowed to pass. His repeated requests for means of transportation were unheeded until General Polk, in a fit of rage, ordered the clouds of mud to be rolled up and the army of six miles was required to pull an empty wagon.

## GRANT AT VICKSBURG.

Storming the Confederate Works on the 22d of May.

### A GALLANT ASSAULT.

McClelland's Corps Carries an Angle of the Works.

### A BLOODY REPULSE.

An Ineffectual Attack, Followed by a Protracted Siege.

[By the Comte de Paris.]

The general assault was fixed for the 22d at 10 o'clock in the morning; the corps commanders had regulated their watches so as to secure greater unanimity to the movement. They were to make their troops advance at once in columns of platoons over all the roads leading to Vicksburg, northeast, east, and southeast. Believing that they had failed on the 19th because the attacks had been limited to those portions of the enemy's line adjoining the roads, they had carefully examined all the lines during the two following days, and selected new points of attack. The crews of the vessels which had remained above planted six mortars on a large raft moored close to the bank, so as to be able to fire into the works over the strip of land and the turning-point in the river. These mortars fired bombshells during the entire night, and at 7 o'clock in the morning Porter came with the ironclads that were lying below Vicksburg to place himself within four hundred and forty yards of the lower batteries, upon which he poured a shower of shot. From 3 o'clock in the morning Grant's artillery had been Pemberton aware of the attack that was preparing against him. When daylight appeared the skirmishers, advancing as close as possible along the edge of the woods and among the ravines, which afforded them the cover of the dense foliage, commenced their ride with the sharp crack of their rifles with the roar of the cannon. During four hours the Confederates, surrounded by a circle of fire, were exposed to the most terrible bombardment that can possibly be conceived. Their firing, at first brisk and precise, soon began to slacken in that part of the line facing the river, while on the land side the balls of Grant's sharpshooters finally prevented the gunners from serving their pieces.

THE ARMY ADVANCES TO THE CHARGE.

At last, at the hour agreed upon, the assaulting columns were formed, and the three Federal corps moved forward at the same moment. Sherman had become convinced that he could not attack the enemy except by following, by way of the Cemetery road, the line of hillsides connecting the northern ridge and the hill which commanded it to the neighboring heights. Everywhere else it was necessary to traverse either of the two ravines, and the difficulties of the ground did not admit of a sufficient number of troops being brought forward at once for the purpose of storming the works. The Confederates were fully aware of this, and had taken particular care to fortify the bare approaches of Cemetery road. A strong bastion surrounded by a ditch commanded them the more easily that this road wound along a narrow ridge, and, after following the ditch of the bastion, it entered the inclosure of the inside walls. More to the right, the fortified front extended along the ravine, lowering at a point where the latter became more narrow. Blair's division was ordered to attack the bastion, and while waiting for the decisive moment, it took position as near as possible to the enemy's defenses without exposing itself to their fire. A detachment of one hundred and fifty resolute men led the march with planks to bridge the ditch; Ewing's brigade followed it in column by flank, a formation rendered necessary by the narrowness of the road. The two other brigades, not being able to deploy alongside of the latter, were held in reserve. On the Confederate side, Shoup's brigade of Smith's division defended the bastion, while a brigade of Forney's division was posted on the right of the road. At 10 o'clock precisely Ewing pushed his column forward at a double-quick through the open space that has to be traversed, and the entire artillery of the division, covering that portion of the enemy's line which it is sought to carry with projectiles, does not allow its defenders to interrupt the march of the assailants. The latter cross the ditch and climb the gentle slope along which the road ascends as far as the bastion; they are about passing beyond this work and reaching the inside wall at the point where the road penetrates, when the Confederates open upon them such a terrific fire from all the fronts commanding this point that the assaulting column hesitates and halts. The Federal soldiers, unable to advance and unwilling to fall back, throw themselves into the ditch of the bastion, planting their colors on the parapet, and quickly throw up a small breastwork in order to shelter themselves from the fire by flank. The two other brigades protect them by firing upon the parapet. But they cannot penetrate the fiery circle which Ewing was unable to enter without unnecessarily exposing themselves to inevitable destruction. The latter, therefore, is recalled, and Blair, hoping to find less formidable obstacles elsewhere, orders Giles A. Smith, in conjunction with Mason's brigade of McPherson's corps, to cross the ravine into which he has descended on the left for the purpose of attacking the works extending south of the Cemetery road. Notwithstanding the steepness of the activity, the cooped-up, and the abatis which obstruct their march, the Federal soldiers draw near the enemy's intrenchments; but they have lost that cohesiveness which is necessary in delivering an assault, and being divided into small groups, they emerge successively in sight of these works in proportion as the ground has more or less retarded their movements. Being received by a regular and well-sustained fire, they become engaged in a useless musketry-duel with a portion of Forney's division. Finally, the boldest among them rush upon the parapet, dragging a number of their comrades after them. But at this moment Forney receives a timely re-enforcement. Bowen has sent him two brigades, which double the number of his force, and the defenders of the point attacked by Ransom find themselves, like those on the Cemetery road,

stronger numerically than the assailants. At the expiration of half an hour this new attempt in its turn proves a failure; at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon the Federals are driven back into the woods from whence they had emerged. On the right of Sherman, Steele has finally taken a position whence he has advanced against the extreme left of the enemy's line near the river. But for a distance of more than four hundred yards he had to ascend slopes under cultivation, commanded by the works forming this line. The Confederate division under Smith, which occupied these works, had opened a destructive fire upon him; he had vainly gathered together his forces for the purpose of carrying the battery nearest the river. His efforts proved fruitless, and before 2 o'clock he was obliged to abandon the idea of a new attack against these formidable positions.

AN INEFFECTUAL ATTACK.

In the meantime McPherson was approaching, by way of the Jackson road, the culminating point before mentioned, which stood in front of him. His soldiers had displayed the same courage as those of Sherman, but, being obliged to follow a narrow and open ridge like those on the Cemetery road, they were equally unsuccessful. His line extended beyond the Jackson road on the right, and on the left as far as within half a mile of the railroad. Ransom's brigade, which alone represented McClelland's division, formed the extreme right. Logan, in the center, had placed the two brigades under Leggett and J. E. Smith, along the Jackson road, while his third brigade, under Stevenson, was deployed on the left over the slopes which reach down toward the ravine whence the Big Bayou derives its source. Finally, Quinby's division extended on his left, separated by this ravine from the enemy's works, which at this point made a deep salient angle; this condition of the ground did not allow him to attack them vigorously, and his action was confined to some trifling demonstrations.

Logan, on the contrary, had given the signal of attack at 10 o'clock, and Leggett had advanced while the firing of the Federal guns was increasing in intensity. But he had not been able to reach the enemy's works, and Smith, who had come to his assistance, had, like him, been driven out of the open space, of which the Confederate cannon had complete command. Stevenson, protected by the sinuosities of the ground, succeeded in climbing the slopes that stood before him; but, his line being thinned, he found himself too weak to approach the bastions which crowned their summits, and was likewise repulsed. The attack of which we have already spoken, and which Ransom led against the right of Forney's division, took place a little later.

McClelland formed the left of the Federal army. Before him the works of the place, following the summit of the hills, receded north and more from the borders of Big Bayou, so that he had been able to take a position on the other side of this stream along the counterforts of the slopes, the summit of which was occupied by Stevenson's Confederate division. A. J. Smith and Carr were deployed right and left of the railroad, along a ravine of small depth, which the road formerly crossed by a wooden bridge, before penetrating a deep trench on the other side.

The only battery of heavy artillery brought over by Grant, consisting of six thirty-pounder Parrotts guns, was posted in the rear of Carr's right, and its fire succeeded in effecting a breach in the salient angle of one of the principal redoubts of the enemy, where two guns were dismounted. At a distance on the left there was, first of all, Osterhaus, separated from Carr by the prolongation of the valley, which trended eastward in the direction of the bayou, and beyond it Hovey, who was at a greater distance from the enemy's line than the others. There was between Hovey's left and the river a space of more than three thousand yards which the Federals had not been able to invest. Grant had merely sought to mark this space by placing on the Warren road two brigades of McClelland's division, recently landed, which were ordered to join their fire to that of the fleet against the batteries erected on the summit of the bluff at the southern extremity of the inclosure.

McClelland's attack takes place at the same hour as that of the two other corps. Smith and Carr cross the valley at a double-quick under the cross-fire of the enemy's batteries. Lawler's brigade of Carr's division, which had achieved distinction at the Big Black River bridge, and Landrum's brigade of Smith's division, reach the works with great quickness, while a detachment of the Twenty-second Iowa, soles the parapet of a lunette, of which it finally takes possession. But the rest of the line has been broken, and cannot take advantage of its first success. The lunette itself is commanded by the main line of the Confederates; a hand-to-hand fight follows, grenades are hurled in every direction, and men fire upon each other at close range. The defenders, who would not abandon their post, and the assailants, who have penetrated into the work, are nearly all killed or wounded within this narrow space. The survivors, being exposed on all sides to the projectiles of both friends and foes, throw themselves flat upon the ground, and remain in that position for several hours, almost motionless. One man only, among the Federals, found his way to the summit of the lunette, and his escape by jumping the parapet, and he had even the good luck of taking several prisoners.

BURRIDGE AND NENTON CARRY A SALIENT.

The two other brigades of Smith and Carr have been held in reserve. Their commanders, Burrbridge and Benton, led them to the relief of their comrades; they are decimated in the turn while traversing the valley, but they do not allow themselves to be checked by their losses nor by the sight of the dead and wounded which the preceding attack had scattered all along their route. They even take with them a small howitzer, which Captain White waves in front of an embankment of the enemy. The salient angle, which had been struck in the morning by the projectiles of the heavy artillery, is reached; about sixty men enter the redoubt, hoisting a flag upon the parapet. The rest of the two brigades find shelter in the ditch, where they defend themselves. The point thus secured was of the highest importance, and if the Federals had taken immediate advantage of this first success, the enemy's line would have been pierced. But they were too much scattered and weakened to be able to do this. Stevenson, who is in command of the defenders, calls for volunteers to recover the position lost. Two companies of Wall's Legion, from Texas, undertake this task and rush upon the Federals who occupy the angle of the redoubt; the latter, surrounded on all sides, are taken prisoners. The combat, however, is continued be-

tween those of the assailants who are in the ditch and the defenders who are masters of the interior of the work. Two Federal flags float for a considerable length of time between them, until at last each party carries off one of them. But this conflict is without result for Grant's soldiers. Hovey and Osterhaus cannot give them any assistance, because, having been repulsed in all their attacks, they cannot occupy the enemy except by keeping up a sharp fire of musketry against him. McClelland, seeing the two flags still floating on the enemy's parapet, believes that his soldiers are in possession of the work, and sends for McArthur to come to him. The latter was about to attack a battery which the fleet had silenced when this message was received; he started at once, but the distance being great he could not arrive in time, and subsequent instructions made him take another direction before he had reached this section of the battlefield. After resisting the enemy, who was pouring shells into their midst, for a considerable length of time, Carr's and Smith's soldiers have been compelled to seek a less dangerous position in the rear, and have abandoned the ditch, full of dead and wounded, which they have so valiantly disputed, to the Texans. In the meanwhile McClelland has apprised Grant that he has taken possession of two works, asking him both for re-enforcements to complete the victory and a diversion in his favor along the rest of the line.

McClelland calls for re-enforcements. The Federals, repulsed everywhere, have abandoned the idea of murderous assaults, the uselessness of which has been fully demonstrated. The general-in-chief has gone to join Sherman at the post of observation which the latter occupies at a distance of only two hundred yards from the enemy's line; the dead are gathered up and the wounded cared for. Up to this time, all his troops being engaged, Grant, who has but little confidence in McClelland's judgment, has not sent him the re-enforcements which the latter has been asking for since the beginning of the action. Nevertheless, upon his repeated assertions that he is in possession of two of the enemy's works, he determines to gratify him. While he is proceeding in person to the latter's headquarters, he leaves directions with Sherman and McPherson to renew the attack unless they receive counter-orders in due time; the latter was also to send one of his brigades to complete the success announced by McClelland. Toward 4 o'clock the Federals renew the fight—with less unanimity and dash, although with as much courage as in the morning. Steele, on the right, descends once more into the ravine, leaving again within its several hundreds of killed and wounded. He is repulsed. Mower's brigade of Tuttle's division attacks the bastion before which Ewing has sustained such cruel losses; it reaches the parapet, but is driven back in its turn upon Blair's division, which has deployed for the purpose of sustaining it. McPherson receives another check along the Jackson road. "He is obliged to bring back the charge," Logan's division, which has already been severely tried, and which the concentric fire of the enemy is decimating for the second time. Quinby has sent Boomer's brigade, which has fought so valiantly at Champion's Hill, to McClelland. But the difficulties of the ground delay it on the road, and it is almost dark when it arrives in front of the works which no one is any longer disputing to the enemy. The latter, on the contrary, has assumed the offensive, and the brave Boomer is killed while protecting the retreat of Smith's division, which is taken back to a less exposed position.

THE CRUEL COMPLETION OF DEFEAT.

This bloody and fruitless conflict cost the Federals three thousand men, among whom was an unusual proportion of killed. The Confederates had only eight hundred men disabled. The check which Grant had just experienced was complete and decisive. This check was due, in the first instance, to the error committed by Grant in believing the enemy's army to be reduced to twelve or fifteen thousand men, in counting upon its discouragement, and in not estimating the strength of the works erected before him at their true value. We must also attribute this disaster to the extreme difficulty of the ground, which obliged the assaulting columns to advance in a narrow line against some points which were in no other way approachable—a formation which rendered the attack ineffective and prevented the timely arrival of reserves; in short, it did not admit of rapid communications from point to point in the line of assailants.

This severe lesson taught Grant that it would require some other means to reduce the place. It did not, however, set him permanently against this system of simultaneous attacks against positions too strong to be carried by assault; for, as we shall see shortly, he tried the same thing again, although with another army, in the disastrous battle of Cold Harbor, which was an exact repetition of the assault on Vicksburg.

A New Massachusetts Relief Corps.

John H. Chipman, Jr., Relief Corps No. 30, was instituted at Grand Army Hall, at Beverly, Mass., by Mrs. M. Susie Goodale, of Medford, Acting Department Secretary, assisted by Mrs. Matilda E. Lawton, of South Boston, as Counselor, and Mrs. Daniel Fuller, of Danvers, as Chaplain. The officers are: President, Mrs. Kate R. Hood; Senior Vice-President, Mrs. Alice Cressy; Junior Vice-President, Mrs. Nancy S. Herrick; Secretary, Mrs. George K. Ingerson; Chaplain, Mrs. Lucy A. Ober; Treasurer, Mrs. Adella Maguire; Conductors, Mrs. Carrie A. Spar; Guard, Mrs. Mary L. Barker. In the evening at 8 o'clock a public installation was held at Grand Army Hall, with a large number of John H. Chipman, Jr., Post No. 89, G. A. R., were in attendance, as also representatives of the various Relief Corps commencing its existence with a membership of ninety, and is destined to be a valuable auxiliary to Post No. 89. The thirty Relief Corps in the State number 1,300 members, who are doing a good work in assisting in the care of the sick members of the Order.

Columbus, Ohio, Reader—Grand Army Day.

The executive committee of the ex-Soldiers and Sailors Association, of Franklin County, Ohio, under whose management the soldiers' Reunion will be held at Columbus, from July 28th to 29th, have set apart Thursday, July 28th, as Grand Army Day, and Department Commander Clark, of Ohio, has issued a special order calling the attention of the various posts to the fact. The exercises of the day will consist, in part, of a grand parade of the Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic in the afternoon, and a Grand Army Camp-fire in the evening. The full programme, list of speakers, etc., will be announced in future orders.

If your lungs are almost wasted by consumption, Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" will not cure you, yet as a remedy for weak lungs, and all crumbly bronchitis, throat, and lung affections, it is unsurpassed. Send two stamps for Dr. Pierce's large pamphlet treatise on Consumption and Kindred Affections. Address: WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N. Y.